

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

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CALVIN W. PRICE, Editor.

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Cleared by the axe and held with a rifle. That is a true description of a West Virginia title to land. This is another chapter concerning the crisis of 1774, when they tried to make us turn back and abandon our lands and give up our homes.

It is an interesting pursuit—the hunting for the truth. The work of the historian seems to have been to put a color on a state of facts that will justify his own people. He is an unscrupulous advocate and defender not of the truth but the reputation of his countrymen.

It is said of a small island that its children are bred in the belief that they once defeated the United States and if the United States does not behave they will lick her again.

The incredibility of history has long been recognized by the inquiring mind. Walpole said that he did not want history read to him because he knew it to be false.

We were taught to believe that Dunmore, in 1774, conspired with the Indians to drive the settlers off of the Western Waters.

Our troubles all grew out of the right to settle on the Indian land. In 1774, so many white people had taken up land on the west side of the divide and made their homes there that there was not a paper title.

Then there was comparative peace with the Indians on the Eastern Waters. During those ten years several thousand pioneers were slaughtered by the Indians.

All this time the people east of the Blue Ridge dwelt in peace and safety and owing to the new land and negro labor, an aristocracy was formed that was as luxurious as any that was ever known in the history of the world.

When Dunmore came to be Governor of Virginia, he immediately

came to the conclusion that it was best to give the settlers on the Western Waters titles to their lands for the simple reason that they would seize what land they wanted anyway, and that it was better to make a virtue of necessity and let the empire take its way westward.

Then it was that the appeal was made to the legislature and then that legislature went on record as refusing to recognize the danger, and refusing to furnish even as much as a single load of powder for a rifle gun.

Dunmore wrote to Lewis that he, Dunmore, would furnish powder and ball, but that was in the summer after Dunmore had dissolved the assembly and sent it home.

After the armies under Dunmore had won the war, the supple Virginians made much of the heroes, and passed all kinds of praise resolutions and appointed commissioners and ratified and completed the treaty and did everything to add to the glory and renown of the fighting men of the mountains, except to list their names and to pay them for their time and expense.

Some day I want to make a study of the Virginia intellect of the eighteenth century. Those men had the quickest minds and smoothest tongues of any race, of diplomats.

I was raised in the doctrine that what Virginia does is right, even if it is not right, and it was not until I read the journal of the House of Burgesses in its brief session in May, 1774, that I saw as in a bright light, that the unspeakable body of which Andrew Lewis was a member, had doomed the people of the Western Waters to death and left them to perish.

Then I commenced my long search for another document sometimes called the first declaration of independence, which was promulgated on the banks of the Ohio River, November 5, 1774, by the victorious army, at Fort Gore, at the mouth of the Hocking River, above the mouth of the Kanawha at Point Pleasant.

All the books that I had dealing with the subject referred to the paper and purported to give the effect of the contents, but I had a thought that knowing the circumstances as I had come to know them, that the true interpretation of that paper was that it was a part ally and part defiance to lowland Virginia.

It was finally secured from our

State Historian, Mr. Clifford K. Myers. Read this clear and courageous declaration:

Meeting of Officers under Earl of Dunmore.

At a meeting of the Officers under the command of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Dunmore, convened at Fort Gower, November 5, 1774, for the purpose of considering the grievances of British America, an Officer present addressed the Meeting in the following words:

'Gentlemen: Having now concluded the campaign, by the assistance of Providence, with honor and advantage to the Colony and ourselves, it only remains that we should give our country the strongest assurance that we are ready, at all times, to maintain and defend her just rights and privileges. We have lived about three months in the woods without any intelligence from Boston, or from the Delegates at Philadelphia. It is possible, from the groundless reports of designing men, that our countrymen may be jealous of the use such a body would make of arms in their hands at this critical juncture.

Whereupon the meeting made choice of a committee to draw up and prepare Resolves for their consideration, who immediately withdrew, and after some time spent therein, reported that they had agreed to and prepared the following Resolves, which were read, maturely considered, and agreed to, nemine contradicente, by the meeting, and ordered to be published in the Virginia Gazette:

RESOLVED, That we bear the most faithful allegiance to his Majesty King George the Third, whilst his Majesty delight to reign over a brave and free people; that we will, at the expense of life, and every thing dear and valuable, exert ourselves in support of the honour of his Crown and the dignity of the British Empire.

RESOLVED, That we entertain the greatest respect for his Excellency the Right Honourable Lord Dunmore, who commanded the expedition against the Shawanese; and who, we are confident, underwent the great fatigue of this singular campaign from no other motive than the true interest of this country.

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Benjamin Ashby, Clerk (Taken from "American Archives," Fourth Series, Vol. one pages: 962-963.)

Here is the way I construe the document: 1. That the mountain men have shown they could and would defend

their homes.

2. That they have been on their resources and that if they have done anything contrary to the wishes of the Continental Congress or the Insurgents in Boston that they are not to be blamed for they have had no word of any kind from them.

3. That an effort will probably be made to have them considered outlaws. 4. That the campaign was waged without governmental assistance. Not even salt was furnished.

5. That we will not run wild but act only as in honor bound for the good of America in general and Virginia in particular. 6. That we are loyal to the King and that we regret the necessity of acting without authority from him and the House of Burgesses.

7. That with all due respect to the King, there are certain unalienable rights such as life, liberty, and the pursuit of safety, peace, and happiness, which outweigh every other consideration.

8. That this irregular expedition is not to be taken as a precedent that we may act in a precipitate, riotous, or tumultuous manner. We are strong for law and order as a regular thing.

9. That Dunmore is about as good an old scout as ever slept in the rain. The above is my construction of this paper. I think I give it its true meaning. A shorter construction might be given it. We did right, we are bad men to cross, and if Virginia under King George does not like it she can lick it.

IF IT'S INSURANCE YOU WANT. SEE F. M. SYDNOR, Manager HUNTER & ECHOLS INSURANCE AGENCY INC. Marlinton, West Virginia.

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Petition for Discharge IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, for the Southern District of West Virginia. In the matter of Foley Morrison Bankrupt.

FARMERS LONG TIME LOANS Farmers who must secure loans should borrow through the cooperative Profit Sharing System established by Congress.

ORDER OF NOTICE THEREON In the District Court of the United States, for the Southern District of West Virginia.

GREENBANK GARAGE I have rented the Greenbank Garage and will do repair work on all cars. Prices right. Will hand sub-agency for Durant and Star cars.

FIDUCIARY NOTICE The following fiduciary account is before me for settlement: Monroe Beard, Adm., of J. O. Beard, deceased.

CONFERENCE WITH P. T. Ward, Secretary-Treasurer, Pocahontas County National Farm Loan Association.

WILL BUY West Va. Mortgage & Discount Cor. Preferred stock at 54 net, cash; Common at 6.

STARK TREES BEAR FRUIT Large in the World - Oldest in America - 1850 - Over 100 Years Old. SEE OR WRITE T. A. RICHARDS, AGENT CASS, W. VA.

FULLER BRUSHES As representative of the Fuller Brush Company, I will call on the people of Pocahontas, with a full line of the best brushes made.

FOR SALE 8 room house, bath room and pantries, well located on good sized lot. Good outbuildings, ample cellarage, light and heat.

FOR SALE Some pure bred B. I. Reds fine layers. Must go at once. \$1.50 each.

MINNEHAHA HOTEL MINNEHAHA SPRINGS, W. VA. Now open. Special attention to automobile parties who give notice of their arrival.

MINNEHAHA SPRINGS WATER delivered to your door in 5 gallon lots at 10c a gallon. Phone or write. Newton Lockridge. Minnehaha Springs, W. Va.

BARR'D PLYMOUTH ROCKS—After selecting all my exhibition birds for the Pocahontas and Greenbrier Fairs, I have a few nice cockerels left: weight about 4-12 lbs; Holtermans Aristocrat strain. These are all well marked and are as nice those you will see at the above fairs.

DOORS AND WINDOWS I have just received a car load of doors and windows Assorted styles and sizes, and attractive prices.

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BAXTERS GARAGE Marlinton, W. Va. The largest and best equipped garage in Pocahontas County and the eastern part of the State. Agency - Lincoln, Ford Fordson Repair work a specialty. Expert mechanics. Ford Sales and Service. Insist on genuine Ford parts. J. L. BAXTER, Propri.

PIGS FOR SALE 25 good shoats, 10 to 12 weeks old at \$6.50 each at home or \$7 at express station. W. McClinton Marlinton, W. Va.

FIDUCIARY NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the accounts of A. N. Barlow, administrator of the estate of the late Geo. W. Allen are before the undersigned commissioner of accounts for Pocahontas county for settlement.

Administrators Notice Notice is hereby given to all persons knowing themselves to be indebted to the estate of N. B. Arbogast, deceased, to make immediate settlement with the undersigned administrator.

FIDUCIARY NOTICE The following fiduciary account is before me for settlement: Monroe Beard, Adm., of J. O. Beard, deceased.

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MINNEHAHA HOTEL MINNEHAHA SPRINGS, W. VA. Now open. Special attention to automobile parties who give notice of their arrival.

DOORS AND WINDOWS I have just received a car load of doors and windows Assorted styles and sizes, and attractive prices.

SILVER FOXES—I can sell you the very best of silver foxes. Buy yourself a few pair and make some real money. If interested write to me and I will come to see you.

ALL is not Oil that oozes. NOT BY A QUANTUM.

Anybody can make an oil that will lubricate, but it takes years of experience to refine an oil that will stand heat, speed, pressure, narrow clearances, and still do a thorough job of lubricating your motor.

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A. P. EDGAR, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Courts: Pocahontas and adjoining counties and the Supreme Court of Appeals.

L. M. McCLINTIC, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties, and in the Court of Appeals of the State of West Virginia.

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CHARLES SHINABERRY Graduate in Auctioneering I hold diploma covering all branches of auctioneering. Reasonable rates, all calls promptly answered.

DENTISTRY Dr. Moore N. McKee has opened a dental office in the Lightner building on Main street opposite Marlinton Hotel.

Building Material Yellow pine, floor and ceiling, poplar siding, ceilings and trimmings for inside and out. Door and window frames made to order, also dimension work.

Make Your Home Brighter with DELCO-LIGHT PRODUCTS Electric Lamps Washing Machines Water Systems.

Marlinton Electric Co Marlinton, W. Va. Write or phone for Catalogue ACCESSORIES and SUPPLIES.

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